



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD)

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April 18, 2007

Chairman Kevin Martin
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th street, SW
Room #8B-201
Washington, DC 20554

RE: M2Z's Wireless Broadband Service (WT Docket 07-16 & 07-30)

Dear Mr. Chairman,

I am writing to you on behalf of the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) to express our strong support for the pending license application of M2Z Networks, Inc. (M2Z). As part of the Community College Leadership Program (CCLP) of the University of Texas at Austin, it is the job of NISOD to help community college leaders stay on the cutting edge of American education. Over 700 community colleges around the world are now NISOD-members, including almost every large community college district, the majority of urban and technical colleges in the United States, and more than 200 small, rural colleges around the world. It is on behalf of our members that I strongly urge you to act now to grant M2Z's spectrum license application

The United States has entered the twenty-first century as an emerging "digital democracy" and in this digital democracy the role of higher education is central. Educational systems, public and private, face unparalleled calls to provide infrastructure for a stable and successful society. Knowledgeable workers with cutting-edge information and skills are a competitive advantage that the American economy needs to survive and grow in this new economy.

The Internet has provided new and interesting ways to engage in the learning process. At the same time, a troubling trend has emerged; the promise and power of information technology and the Internet is not being realized equally in our society. As you know a digital divide now segregates low-income and rural Americans. The lack of technology access and corresponding skills puts disadvantaged members of our society increasingly at risk of becoming disenfranchised spectators of a digital world that is passing them by.

As educators, there is a simple formula for ensuring success in this new digital world; *access plus quality instruction.*

Our Community colleges are working hard to develop relevant, quality instructional material for their student bodies, but we also need the government and its regulators to play their parts to enable private sector innovation to come to the market in support of our efforts. M2Z's plan to provide fast, free, family-friendly broadband Internet access to 95% of the population will increase access to important Internet technologies that are not currently available by many Americans. This is exactly the kind of help the American educational system needs from the marketplace.

The opportunity before you and your colleagues at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to grant M2Z's license and to benefit the public interest is profound – and this choice will dictate whether or not we and our students can truly live free in this increasingly interconnected world. By granting M2Z's license, the FCC will be taking a huge step toward greater digital inclusion in this country and will also be strengthening the underpinnings of our new digital democracy.

Sincerely,



Dr. Mark David Milliron
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cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell